IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to have the status and content indicated in the following listing of claims, wherein any cancellation of claims is made *without prejudice*.

1-39 (cancelled).

40. (currently amended) A method of speech recognition wherein a user employs a microphone to input unknown speech to be recognized into a computerized system, the computerized system including a computing device, a speech recognition program and a language model database, the language model database comprising:

(i) a word model database comprising digital representations, and associated graphic representations, of properly pronounced known spoken words; and

(ii) a phrase model database comprising digital representations, and associated graphic representations, of properly pronounced known spoken phrases, each said spoken phrase comprising at least a part of each of two different words; wherein the method comprises:

a) receiving the input speech into the computerized system from the microphone as an input speech signal;

b) converting the input speech signal into digital representations of audible sound components of the input speech;

c) comparing the digital representation of an audible sound component of the input speech to the digital representations of spoken words and properly spoken phrases in the word and phrase model databases to determine a match between the one said audible sound component and one of the respective word or phrase digital representations; and

d) outputting the graphic representation associated with the respective matched word or ~~phrase~~ matched phrase, as a recognized speech component the matched phrase being an input spoken phrase matched with a properly spoken phrase model in the phrase model database.

41. (previously presented) A method according to claim 40 wherein the associated graphic representations of the spoken words and phrases are alphanumeric representations, wherein the spoken phrases in the phrase model database each comprise at least two words and wherein the method comprises repetition of steps c) and d) to continue recognizing speech input by a user and provide alphanumeric output representing the speech recognized.

42. (currently amended) A method according to claim 41 comprising employing one or more speech-trained speakers to input words and phrases into the word and phrase model databases and, ~~optionally,~~ as the information is generated by the speakers speaking into microphones, ~~the information is digitized, analyzed and stored~~ digitizing, analyzing and storing the information.

43. (previously presented) A method according to claim 41 wherein the word model database or the phrase model database further comprise or both the word model database and the phrase model database further comprise audio recordings, optionally in high quality format, of the words or phrases or both the words and phrases in the model databases, respectively, to provide for audible playback of the words or phrases or both the words and phrases.

44. (previously presented) A method according to claim 42 wherein the word model database or the phrase model database further comprises or both the word model database and the phrase model database further comprise error models of word or phrase or both word and phrase mispronunciations, respectively, optionally spoken by a speaker who normally makes such mispronunciations.

45. (previously presented) A method according to claim 44 wherein the word model database or the phrase model database comprises or both the word model database and the phrase model database comprise or comprises digital representations of known mispronounced audible sounds and associated alphanumeric representations of the

known mispronounced audible sounds corresponding to the improper pronunciations.

46. (previously presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein the word model database or the phrase model database comprises or both the word model database and the phrase model database comprise or comprises a collection of word or phrase models or both word and phrase models, respectively, associated with one or more mispronunciations.

47. (previously presented) A method according to claim 46 wherein if the system determines that the mispronunciation is the mispronunciation of a phrase, the system retrieves from memory phrases which have the same or similar mispronunciation errors.

48. (previously presented) A method according to claim 40 wherein the system offers a system user the option of engaging in an interactive speech training dialog with the system in response to system detection of improper pronunciation, the speech training presented by the system optionally being in accordance with the Lessac method.

49. (previously presented) A method according to claim 48 wherein properly pronounced phrases are stored in the system in the form of alphanumeric presentations and also in high-quality audio format to provide for audible playback of the words during the training dialog.

50. (previously presented) A method according to claim 48 comprising generating properly pronounced exercise word models or exercise phrase models or both exercise word models and exercise phrase models for use in the interactive training dialog during a database generation session effected prior to delivery of the system.

51. (previously presented) A method according to claim 48 wherein in response to detection of an improper pronunciation of a phrase, a properly pronounced version of the phrase is presented on-screen to the user in alphanumeric form and the user is

system-invited to pronounce the word and, optionally, the system returns to act as a voice recognition system in response to one or more proper pronunciations.

52. (previously presented) A method according to claim 48 wherein the training dialog employs an instruction screen showing the user how to make the appropriate sounds, with physical instructions regarding movement of the muscles of the mouth and tongue to achieve the appropriate sound, is presented to the user.

53. (previously presented) A method according to claim 48 wherein the word model database or the phrase model database comprises or both the word model database and the phrase model database comprise a plurality of exercise word models or exercise phrase models or both exercise word models and exercise phrase models, respectively, for training the speech of a user of the system.

54. (previously presented) A method according to claim 53 wherein the exercise word models or the exercise phrase models or both the exercise word models and the exercise phrase models are associated in groups having common mispronunciation characteristics.

55. (previously presented) A method according to claim 54 wherein the language model database comprises a plurality of phrase error models and the method comprises a speaker other than the user, optionally a speech-trained speaker, generating the exercise phrase error models by speaking into a microphone.

56. (previously presented) A method according to claim 55 comprising making audio recordings of the properly pronounced exercise word and/or phrase models and storing the recordings on computer-accessible media available to the computerized system to allow for playback of these proper pronunciations during use of the program to provide an audible cue allowing the user to monitor the speech recognition performance of the system.

57. (currently amended) A computerized system for performing speech recognition, the system comprising:

a) a microphone for a user to input speech to be recognized into the system;

b) a speech recognition program to recognize the input speech; and

c) a computing device to run the speech recognition program; and

d) a language model database accessible to the speech recognition program, wherein the language model database comprises:

(i) a word model database comprising digital representations, and associated graphic representations, of properly pronounced known spoken words each said spoken phrase comprising at least a part of each of two different words; and

(ii) a phrase model database comprising digital representations, and associated graphic representations, of properly pronounced known spoken phrases; and wherein the speech recognition program can compare the digital representation of a particular one of said input speech audible sounds to the digital representations of properly spoken words and properly spoken phrases in the respective word and phrase model databases to determine a match with a respective word or phrase correlating with the particular one of said audible sounds and can output, as a recognized speech component the graphic representation associated with the matched word or ~~phrase~~ matched phrase, being a spoken phrase matched with a phrase model in the phrase model database.

58. (previously presented) A system according to claim 57 wherein the associated graphic representations of the spoken words and phrases are alphanumeric representations, wherein the spoken phrases in the phrase model database each comprise at least two words and wherein the word model database or the phrase model database further comprise or both the word model database and the phrase model database further comprise audio recordings, optionally in high quality format, of the words or phrases or both the words and phrases in the model databases, respectively, to provide for audible playback of the words or phrases or both the words and phrases.

59. (previously presented) A system according to claim 57 wherein the associated graphic representations of the spoken words and phrases are alphanumeric representations, wherein the spoken phrases in the phrase model database each comprise at least two words and wherein the word model database or the phrase model database further comprises or both the word model database and the phrase model database further comprise error models of word or phrase or both word and phrase mispronunciations, respectively, optionally spoken by a speaker who normally makes such mispronunciations.